8697941/2024/VIG-II-PRR01

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

PS- PR&RD Department- Vigilance Report No.55, Dt:23.12.2021- Allegations of irregularities levelled in the preparation of estimate for the work "construction of BT road in the village Pedapariya Ozili(M), Nellore District" - Disciplinary proceedings initiated against Sri S. Chaitanya Kumar, the then Deputy Executive Engineer, PR, Nellore and presently working as Deputy Executive Engineer, PRI, Naidupeta, SPSR Nellore District under Rule 20 of APCS (CC&A) Rules, 1991- Charges framed – Written Statement of Defence- Considered - Further action dropped- Orders- Issued.

PANCHAYAT RAJ & RURAL DEVELOPMENT (VIG.II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No.263 **Dated:18.03.2024**

Read the following:

1. From the DG, G.A (V & E) Department, Vigilance Report No. 55 (C.No.6321/V&E/E/2018), Dt:23.12.2021
2. G.O.Rt.No.129, PR&RD (Vig.II) Department, Dt:04.04.2022.
3. G.O.Rt.No.132, PR&RD (Vig.II) Department, Dt:04.04.2022.
4. From the Engineer-in-Chief, Panchayat Raj, Letter No.Vig.III(1)/1540/2022, Dated:28.11.2022.
5. ENC, PR remarks dt:14.9.2023 in e-file bearing Computer No. 1609346 along with further letter of the Superintending Engineer, Panchayat Raj Circle, Nellore, Nellore District, Lr.Rc.No.EC1/749/2022, Dt:15.07.2023

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ORDER:

Based on the recommendations of the Director General, General Administration (Vigilance & Enforcement) Department made in the reference 1st read above relating to certain irregularities against the Panchayat Raj Engineering Personnel in preparation of estimates for the work "Construction of BT road in the village Pedapariya, Ozili (M), Nellore District" and instead of adopting shortest lead for metal (34.65 Kms) i.e., Kundukur Quarry that they adopted longest metal lead (53.35 Kms) i.e., Parlapalli Quarry for the work and causing loss of Rs.4,03,690/- to the exchequer, Government vide reference 2nd read above, have initiated common disciplinary proceeding under Rule 24 of APCS (CC&A) Rules, 1991 and framed following charge under Rule 20 of said rules against Sri S. Chaitanya Kumar, the then Deputy Executive Engineer, SPSR Nellore and presently working as Dy.EE, PRI, Naidupeta, SPSR Nellore District, with a direction to submit his written statement of defence:

Charge: That Sri S. Chaitanya Kumar, the then DEE, PR, Nellore and presently working as DEE, PRI, Naidupeta, SPSR Nellore District has committed irregularities leveled in the preparation of estimates for the work "Construction of BT road in the village Pedapariya Ozili (M), Nellore District" instead of adopting shortest lead for metal (34.65 Kms) i.e., Kundukur Quarry, adopted longest metal lead (53.35 Kms) i.e., Parlapalli Quarry for the work "Km 2/6 of OG road

PTO.,

to Pedapariya in Ozili Mandal of SPSR Nellore District" causing loss of Rs.4,03,690/- to the Govt. exchequer.

2. In the reference 4th read above, the Engineer-in-Chief, Panchayat Raj, among others, has furnished the written statement of defence dt:25.10.2022 of the charged officer Sri S. Chaitanya Kumar, the then DEE, PR, Nellore and presently working as DEE, PRI, Naidupeta, SPSR Nellore District to the Government for taking further action in the matter.

3. In his written statement of defence, the charged officer Sri S. Chaitanya Kumar, DEE (PR) has stated that the Kundukur quarry has not been approved by District Level Committee at the time of V&E Officials inspection and the Parlapalli quarry is an approved quarry and it is being used by all Engineering Departments for the last few decades. Further, the approval of Kundukur quarry by District Mining Department is also not been communicated to the Engineering Departments so far. During 2017-18, the R&B Department initiated Kundukur Quarry by approving the same to their Department as the production of quantity from the quarry is very less. But the approval of quarry has not been communicated to all other Engineering Departments in SPSR Nellore District by keeping the less quantity of production from the quarry. The C.O., has stated that the PR Department sanctioned number of works under various grounds viz,. MGNREGS, PMGSY, NABARD, SC Sub-Plan etc, which are time bound and the Kandukuru Quarry is unable to meet the supply requirement and all the Heads of Engineering Department in SPSR Nellore District opined that Kandukuru Quarry is unable to meet the supply requirement and hence the Panchayat Raj Department has not considered the Kandukuru Quarry. Hence, the Charged Officer has stated that he has not boosted up the estimate, he executed the above work as per specified provisions in estimate/agreement and requested to drop the charge against him.

4. The Engineer-in-Chief, Panchayat Raj, in the reference 4th read above, while furnishing the written statement of charged officer, has also informed that the Superintending Engineer, PR, Nellore in letter dt: 24.11.2022 has furnished remarks stating that Parlapalli quarry is approved in all estimates in PR Department and being used by all Engineering Departments for last few decades. The Kandukuru Quarry is not approved by the District Level Committee at the time of visit of Vigilance & Enforcement Department and even today also the quarry is not approved. Further the District Mining Department has also not communicated the same so far and in the light of the above, the field staff have utilized Parpalli Quarry during preparation of estimate for the subject work.

5. In continuation, the Engineer-in-Chief, Panchayat Raj, in the reference 5th read above, has furnished further report of Superintending Engineer, PR, Nellore dt: 15.07.2023 wherein the S.E., (PR) has furnished the parameters of coarser aggregate from Kandukur Quarry and Parlapali quarry and been got tested at Sree Srinivasa Quality Control Lab, Nellore (NABL) in the tabular statement about the test results and informed that "the test results of coarse aggregate can be concluded that Parlapalli Quarry is superior to Kundukur Quarry in view of strength parameters of the material available in Kundukur Quarry, which helps for longer life of the roads".

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6. Government, after careful examination of the matter and in the light of report of Engineer-in-Chief, Panchayat Raj, above, have considered the written statement of defence of the charged officer Sri S. Chaitanya Kumar, the then Deputy Executive Engineer, PR, Nellore and presently working as Deputy Executive Engineer, PRI, Naidupeta, SPSR Nellore District, as found satisfactory.

7. Accordingly, the Government, after careful examination of the matter, hereby drop further action against Sri S. Chaitanya Kumar, the then Deputy Executive Engineer, PR, Nellore and presently working as Deputy Executive Engineer, PRI, Naidupeta, SPSR Nellore District, in the matter.

8. The Engineer-in-Chief, Panchayat Raj, A.P., Vijayawada, shall take further necessary action in the matter accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF THE ANDHRA PRADESH)

SHASHI BHUSHAN KUMAR
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (FAC)

To
The Engineer-in-Chief, Panchayat Raj, A.P., Vijayawada
Sri S. Chaitanya Kumar, the then Deputy Executive Engineer, PR, Nellore and presently working as Deputy Executive Engineer, PRI, Naidupeta, SPSR Nellore District
through the Engineer-in-Chief, Panchayat Raj, A.P., Vijayawada (with a request to serve the order on the individual and furnish the acknowledgment copy)

Copy to :
The Secretary to VC, A.P. Vigilance Commission, Velagapudi
The General Administration (V&E) Department, Vijayawada
The PR&RD (Estt.I) Department
The OSD to the Hon'ble Dy.CM for PR&RD Department
The PS to the Prl. Secretary to Government, PR&RD Department
SF/SC

// FORWARDED::BY::ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER